

## CLAIMS

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### WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A retractable device for retaining a writing instrument, comprising:

2 a retractor comprising a retractor body that houses a cable, the cable  
having a first end positioned within the retractor body and a second end positioned  
4 outside the retractor body, the cable having a protuberance coupled to the second end,  
and wherein the cable is selectively extendable from the retractor body and retractable  
6 into the retractor body; and

an adapter coupled to the protuberance, the adapter comprising a main  
8 body having a first portion and a second portion, wherein the first portion and the  
second portion are separated by a partition; the first portion defining a first bore having  
10 a substantially constant diameter, and the second portion defining a second bore having  
a tapered inner bore.

2. The retractable device of claim 1 wherein the connector is coupled to the  
2 protuberance by an adhesive.

3. The retractable device of claim 1 wherein the connector is coupled to the  
2 protuberance by a friction fit.

4. The retractable device of claim 1 wherein the protuberance includes one or more  
2 annular ridges extending from an outer surface of the protuberance.

5. The retractable device of claim 1 wherein the protuberance is provided with  
2 threads that mate with walls of the first bore.
6. The protuberance of claim 1 wherein the protuberance is sized to engage the  
2 walls of the first bore.
7. The retractable device of claim 6 wherein the first bore is provided with at least  
2 one ridge projecting away from the walls of the first bore.
8. The retractable device of claim 1 wherein the second bore is provided with at  
2 least one ridge projecting away from the walls of the second bore.
9. The retractable device of claim 1 wherein the tapered inner bore of the second  
2 portion of the adapter is funnel-shaped.
10. The retractable device of claim 1 wherein the tapered inner bore of the second  
2 portion of the adapter is bottleneck-shaped.
11. The retractable device of claim 1 further comprising an elongated rod that is  
2 coupled to the retractor body, the elongate rod sized to engage a bore or a press-in clip  
bracket.

12. A retractable device for retaining a writing instrument, comprising:

2 a retractor comprising a retractor body that houses a cable that is  
selectively extendable from and retractable into the retractor body, and a protuberance  
4 provided at a first end of the cable; and

an adapter comprising a main body having a first portion and a second  
6 portion, wherein the first portion and the second portion are separated by an inner wall;  
the first portion defining a first bore having a substantially constant diameter wherein  
8 the first bore engages the protuberance, and the second portion defining a second bore  
having a funnel-shaped inner bore that is capable of engaging an outer wall of the  
10 writing instrument.

13. The retractable device of claim 12 further comprising a fastening means coupled  
2 to the retractor.

14. The retractable device of claim 13 wherein the fastening means is an elongated  
2 rod sized to engage a bore or a press-in clip bracket.

15. The retractable device of claim 12 wherein wherein the protuberance includes  
2 one or more annular ridges extending from an outer surface of the protuberance.

16. The retractable device of claim 12 wherein the protuberance is provided with  
2 threads that mate with corresponding threads on walls of the first bore.

17. A retractable device for retaining a writing instrument, comprising:

a retractor comprising a retractor body coupled to a fastening means and the retractor body housing a cable, the cable having a first end positioned within the retractor body and a second end positioned outside the retractor body, the cable having a protuberance having annular ridges extending from an outer surface of the protuberance, wherein the protuberance coupled to the second end, and wherein the cable is selectively extendable from the retractor body and retractable into the retractor body; and

a flexible adapter comprising a main body having a first portion and a second portion, wherein the first portion and the second portion are separated by an inner wall; the first portion defining a first bore having a substantially constant diameter wherein the first bore engages the protuberance by a friction fit, and the second portion defining a second bore having a funnel-shaped inner bore that is capable of engaging and retaining the writing instrument.

18. The retractable device of claim 17 wherein the fastening means is a belt clip or a bulldog clip.

19. The retractable device of claim 17 wherein the fastening means is an elongated rod sized to engage a bore or a press-in clip bracket.